

**Amendment to the Specification**

Please amend the paragraph commencing at line 25 of page 9 with the following amended paragraph, where the deletion required at line 29 is indicated by a strike-through:

FIG. 1 shows an earth-grading machine **1** according to an aspect of the present invention, including a dual laser elevation machine control system **10** used to establish grade and to maintain elevation control for a contouring blade **2** mounted to the machine **1**. While shown in its present configuration for use with construction earth-grading machinery **1**, control system **10** can also be used ~~on~~ with agricultural equipment as well. The control system **10** includes detectors **20** that are mounted to the machine **1** through optional masts **30**. It will be understood that subsequent discussion of detectors and their corresponding masts in the general sense will include reference numbers **20** and **30**, respectively, and that the references to a left and right detector **20L**, **20R** and a left and right mast **30L**, **30R** are made manifest from the drawing. Masts **30L**, **30R**, which may include telescoping features **70**, can be either manually, hydraulically or electrically adjusted, the latter two cooperative with a motor to facilitate automated translational movement of the mast along the vertical axis relative to earth-grading machine **1**. Laser transmitter **40** generates a beam **50** that may be swept to define a reference plane, normally several feet above the ground. Detectors **20**, essentially 360° omni-directional, detect the laser beam **50** and send elevation information to the controller **60**, which is mounted in the cab of earth-grading machine **1**. It will be appreciated that some of the functions of controller **60** can be distributed among other components in system **10**. For example, system **10** may include a network (not shown) over which laser signals and their deviations can be broadcast, thereby freeing up the controller **60** to dedicate more of its function to passive elevation and status display. Likewise, it will be understood that the essential functions of controller **60** are preserved, regardless of whether it is configured as a distributed or centralized system. In the present configuration, controller **60** is used by the operator as the interface to provide information relating to setup, operation and positioning of the earth-grading machine **1**. Detector **20**, in conjunction with controller **60**, determines the position of the blade **2** relative to the reference plane established by transmitter **40**, indicating for example how much the reference plane is

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above or below the detector **20** location on the masts **30**. Actuators **3** on the earth-grading machinery are used to position the blade **2** in response to an operator command or a signal from the controller **60** such that the earth-grading machine **1** can work on ground **4**.